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SOURCE Sovetskaya Latviya, No 27, 36. (Information requested.)LATVIAN SSR HAS LOYALTY PROBLEMSLATVIANS FORBIDDEN TO CONTACT FOREIGNERS -- Sovetskaya Latviya, No 36, 13 Feb 49

The Supreme Soviet Latvian SSR, in a 10 February 1949 ukase, ordered all direct contacts to be continued between government organizations in Latvia and foreign diplomatic and consular representatives. This step has been taken in conjunction with the 16 December 1947 ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR "Concerning relations between State establishments of the USSR and their officials, and establishments and officials of foreign states."

According to the Latvian ukase, all relations between Latvian officials or organizations and foreign officials or organizations must be carried on through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Latvian SSR, unless otherwise provided by law, international agreement, or by special authorization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Latvian SSR or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs USSR.

The following organizations are permitted, within the limits of their usual functions, to provide services to foreign representatives: post and telegraph offices, railroad, city, water, and air transport services, customs offices, militia, notary offices, house administration for foreigners' residences, fire and medical emergency services, service stations, savings banks, and establishments such as bookstores, restaurants, cultural organizations, theaters, museums, exhibitions, and information offices.

The ukase was signed by A. Kirkhaehteyn, chairman, and K. Gaylis, secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Latvian SSR.

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PEASANTS SABOTAGE TIMBER CUTTING AND HAULING -- Sovetskaya Latviya, No 27,  
3 Feb 49

A number of rural communities in Latvia are behind schedule in their timber cutting and hauling. The Smiltene Volost', which is one of the largest in the Valka Uyezd, has over 250 work horses and about 10 automobiles. However, these transport facilities are used very little. Not more than 50 or 60 horse-drawn carts are sent into the woods for timber hauling. Automobile transport is not used at all. The plan for timber hauling is constantly underfilled. Out of 8,604 cubic meters of cut timber, only 3,022 cubic meters have been hauled away.

A number of kulaks in the Smiltene region persistently refuse to haul timber. Instead of forcing the saboteurs to comply, the village soviet tries to use persuasion. Sprodis, chairman of the volost' executive committee, is aware of these disturbing facts, but has taken no decisive measures. Until now, none of the saboteurs has been held legally responsible. About 100 farms in the volost' have not yet started timber hauling.

Yelgava Uyezd is also behind schedule in hauling. The seasonal plan has been only 60 percent filled. Eleyshkaya Volost', in particular, has completed only one third of the plan. Very few peasants in this volost' take part in hauling. The volost' Party committee and volost' executive committee are doing nothing to improve the situation. Saboteurs in the Eleyshkaya Volost' are free to do as they please, as no one bothers them. Out of 350 individual farms, only 30 take part, and no one really knows how these 30 farmers are working.

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